

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the claims as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A light-emitting tube array display device comprising:
a light-emitting tube array constituted of a plurality of light-emitting tubes arranged in parallel with discharge gas filled therein;
a light-transmitting supporter abutting a display surface side of the light-emitting tube array for supporting the light-emitting tube array and having electrodes, crossing the light emitting tubes and formed on a surface of the supporter facing the light-emitting tube array, for applying a voltage to the light-emitting tubes;
a phosphor layer formed on a rear side inner wall of each light-emitting tube;
a light-transmitting adhesive layer formed between the supporter and the light-emitting tube array;
a rear side substrate abutting a surface of each light-emitting tube so that the light-emitting tube array is held between the supporter and the rear side substrate;
electrodes formed on a surface of the rear side substrate facing the light-emitting tubes and extending in a direction crossing the electrodes formed on the surface of the supporter; and
a resin layer filled into a space formed by display surface sides of the ~~adjacent~~ light-emitting tubes and the supporter, to thereby eliminate total internal reflection of light emitted from the adjacent light-emitting tubes into the space that would occur due to air that would be in the space if the resin layer was not filled into the space,
wherein the adhesive layer has a refractive index equal to or higher than that of a tube body of each light-emitting tube.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A light-emitting tube array display device comprising:
a light-emitting tube array constituted of a plurality of light-emitting tubes arranged in parallel with discharge gas filled therein;
a light-transmitting supporter abutting a display surface side of the light-emitting tube array for supporting the light-emitting tube array and having electrodes, crossing the light-emitting tubes and formed on a surface of the supporter facing the light-emitting tube array, for applying a voltage to the light-emitting tubes;
a phosphor layer formed on a rear side inner wall of each light-emitting tube;
a light-transmitting adhesive layer formed between the supporter and the light-emitting

tube array;

a rear side substrate abutting a surface of each light-emitting tube so that the light-emitting tube array is held between the supporter and the rear side substrate;

electrodes formed on a surface of the rear side substrate facing the light-emitting tubes and extending in a direction crossing the electrodes formed on the surface of the supporter; and

a resin layer filled into a space formed by display surface sides of ~~the adjacent~~ light-emitting tubes and the supporter, to thereby eliminate total internal reflection of light emitted from the adjacent light-emitting tubes into the space that would occur due to air that would be in the space if the resin layer was not filled into the space.

wherein the supporter has a refractive index equal to or higher than that of the adhesive layer.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A light-emitting tube array display device comprising:
a light-emitting tube array constituted of a plurality of light-emitting tubes arranged in parallel with discharge gas filled therein;

a light-transmitting supporter abutting a display surface side of the light-emitting tube array for supporting the light-emitting tube array and having electrodes, crossing the light-emitting tubes and formed on a surface of the supporter facing the light-emitting tube array, for applying a voltage to the light-emitting tubes;

a phosphor layer formed on a rear side inner wall of each light-emitting tube;

a light-transmitting adhesive layer formed between the supporter and the light-emitting tube array;

a rear side substrate abutting a surface of each light-emitting tube so that the light-emitting tube array is held between the supporter and the rear side substrate;

electrodes formed on a surface of the rear side substrate facing the light-emitting tubes and extending in a direction crossing the electrodes formed on the surface of the supporter; and

a resin layer filled into a space formed by display surface sides of ~~the adjacent~~ light-emitting tubes and the supporter, to thereby eliminate total internal reflection of light emitted from the adjacent light-emitting tubes into the space that would occur due to air that would be in the space if the resin layer was not filled into the space.

wherein the adhesive layer has a refractive index equal to or higher than that of a tube body of each light-emitting tube, and the supporter has a refractive index higher than that of the adhesive layer.

4. (ORIGINAL) The light-emitting tube array display device according to claim 3, wherein the refractive index of the tube body of each light-emitting tube is equal to or less than 1.47, the refractive index of the adhesive layer is 1.47-1.50, and the refractive index of the supporter is equal to or higher than 1.50.

5. (ORIGINAL) The light-emitting tube array display device according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the supporter is a flexible resin sheet.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The light-emitting tube array display device according to claims 1 or 3, wherein the supporter is a flexible resin sheet, and the tube body of each light-emitting tube is made of borosilicate glass, the flexible resin sheet is made of polyethylene terephthalate, and the adhesive layer is made of acrylic resin.

7. (ORIGINAL) The light-emitting tube array display device according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein each light-emitting tube has a flat portion provided on its surface facing the supporter and a cross section that allows the flat portion to face at least one electrode of the supporter when the supporter abuts the flat portion.

8. (CANCELED)

9. (ORIGINAL) The light-emitting tube array display device according to claim 1, 2 or 3, further comprising one or more film(s) or substrate(s) having a refractive index higher than that of the supporter, the one or more film(s) or substrate(s) being disposed on a display surface side of the supporter in such a manner that their refractive indices increase successively with distance from the supporter.

10. (CANCELED)

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The light-emitting tube array display device according to claim 2, wherein the supporter is a flexible resin sheet, each light-emitting tube has a tube body made of borosilicate glass, the flexible resin sheet is made of polyethylene terephthalate, and the adhesive layer is made of acrylic resin.